

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Ab A projection optical system is used for projecting a light generated by a light source and modulated by a picture display device comprising pixels laid out to form a matrix on a screen as an enlarged picture. The screen is provided with a Fresnel lens sheet placed on an emission side of the picture display device, a first configuration element and a light passing plate fixed on the emission side of the first configuration element. The first configuration element has lenticular lenses and light absorbing layers. The lenticular lenses are provided on an incidence side of a light passing through the Fresnel lens sheet. The light absorbing layers are each provided at a place in close proximity to the focal point of one of the lenticular lenses and are separated from each other by a predetermined distance for forming light passing windows.
